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A REFLECTION OF AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS OF ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, February 14 marked the start of the Lunar New Year, a holiday celebrated by Asian and Asian Americans around the world. I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the rich history and contributions that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made to our country.

For the last 13 years, I've had the pleasure of representing the largest Vietnamese population in the world out of Vietnam, which is right in Orange County, California. Every year, the Union of Vietnamese Student Associations of Southern California organizes the Orange County Tet Festival, which celebrates the Lunar New Year with an array of traditional foods, ceremonies and customs.

This year, we celebrate the Year of the Tiger, known for their courage and optimism and fearless leadership. Those are the qualities of the tiger, and all of my constituents have demonstrated them in overcoming the enormous challenges that are facing our economy.

Again, it is a great honor to represent the Vietnamese community in Orange County, and I look forward to wishing them a great new year.

Chuc ma na moi!

JOBS

(Mr. FLEMING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, in the midst of the worst recession in over a generation, this administration continues to advance its job-killing climate agendas. For instance, the recent EPA endangerment finding is particularly disturbing.

This reckless regulation lays the groundwork for a type of unlegislated, administrative cap-and-trade, which, without an effective tailoring rule limiting its application, could destroy nearly 3 million manufacturing jobs and could result in lost economic activity of \$7 trillion.

During the State of the Union we heard President Obama proclaim that job creation should be this country's main focus. Then why does he insist on attacking and destroying energy, finance and the health care sectors, killing jobs in the process?

I urge the President to stay true to his word and to work with Republicans in order to advance commonsense ideas which will rein in government spending, which will cut our deficits and will restore the three top things this country wants the most—jobs, jobs, jobs.

REBUILD MAIN STREET AND RESCUE BACK STREET

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, civil rights' leaders and economists from the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, from the AFL-CIO, from the Center for Community Change, from the Economic Policy Institute, from the NAACP, and from the National Council of La Raza called for us to develop legislation to mitigate the job crisis facing millions of Americans. They outline what we believe is a very robust jobs program and bill:

First, the fast-track creation of jobs in the public sector that serve community-level needs.

Second, immediate investment in the infrastructure of schools and public transit.

Third, the prevention of the foreclosure crisis.

It is very important to recognize and understand what these leaders are saying with regard to the entire country in this economic recession. The diversity of American communities clearly dictates that one size does not fit all, according to Ben Jealous of the NAACP.

We have to rebuild Main Street and rescue Back Street. We just can't go back to the economy of 3 to 4 years ago when African Americans suffered perennial unemployment rates.

KANSANS NEED JOBS, NOT MORE BROKEN PROMISES

(Ms. JENKINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, last year when President Obama signed into law the so-called "stimulus package," we were told that it would cost \$787 billion and that it would create 33,000 Kansas jobs. Unfortunately, the facts paint a different picture. Since the stimulus became law, the cost has increased to \$862 billion, and over 47,000 Kansans have lost jobs.

The same rings true: Making promises builds hope. Keeping promises builds trust. That's why I will keep my promise to Kansas by supporting a no-cost jobs plan to put Kansans back to work, to keep taxes low for small businesses, to increase international markets for American products, to practice fiscal restraint, and to restore confidence in the Federal Government.

Kansans need jobs, not more broken promises.

JOBS, WALL STREET AND HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. BERKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I represent the most unique city on the planet, the City of Las Vegas. It's a great place with great people, but we are hurting, and my constituents are angry.

I've got the second highest unemployment rate in the country, the highest mortgage foreclosure rate in the country, and 460,000 Nevadans have no health insurance. The stimulus bill saved our State—money for education and Medicaid, unemployment compensation, job creation, infrastructure improvements—but we need to do more. We need to pass a jobs bill to get more people back to work. We need to pass health care reform to provide medical care for those who can't afford it on their own.

Finally, for the financial industry, whose reckless behavior put this Nation and the rest of the world in a deep recession, Congress must pass meaningful Wall Street reform and consumer protection. I know we talk all the time about Wall Street's being a casino. Coming from Las Vegas and representing Las Vegas, let me assure you no casino on the planet behaves as irresponsibly and as recklessly as Wall Street does. Wall Street ought to be ashamed and should take a lesson from the casino industry.

IT'S ABOUT JOBS

(Mr. ROGERS of Alabama asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Where are the jobs? That's what the folks in East Alabama and around the country want to know.

A year ago, when the President came in, we thought he was going to do something about it. Unfortunately, his idea of remedying the problem was passing the stimulus bill, which I like to think of as the Obama slush fund/political slush fund because that's what it really is. If it, in fact, had been a stimulus bill, it would have been spent in the first year, at a minimum, instead of over 5 years. Instead, he didn't.

Last month, I was encouraged when the President said he was going to focus like a laser on jobs this year. To that end, he has called for a health care summit this week. The President has got to get off his drive to push universal, government-run health insurance on the American people, and has to start talking about and working on the things that we really care about, one of which is getting our people back to work.

What the President needs to do is to drop his push for government-run health care and to start working with his Treasury Department to get them and our banks lending again. Start working with our small business people to find out what kind of relief they need to start hiring again. It's about jobs, Mr. President.